

UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC  
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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Sub-Commission on Prevention of  
Discrimination and Protection  
of Minorities  
Thirty-third session

*Descriptions of the  
communications*

*are from 2nd doc.  
said Netel*

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DRAFT CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION  
AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES TO THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS ON ITS  
CONSIDERATION OF ITEM 6 OF ITS AGENDA AT ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS: REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP  
ESTABLISHED UNDER SUB-COMMISSION RESOLUTION 2 (XXIV) IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1503 (XLVIII)

Geneva, 18 August - 12 September 1980

Rapporteur: Mrs. Halima Embarek Warzazi

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(☒) Release ( ☐ Excise ( ☐ Deny

Exemption(s): NR

Declassify: ( ☐ ) In Part (☒ ) In Full

( ☐ ) Classify as   ( ☐ ) Extend as   ( ☐ ) Downgrade to

Date   Declassify on   Reason

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NR

(h) Situation concerning Argentina, as revealed by

(i) Communication No. 79/7/5,264

(dated 6 May 1979) from the Asamblea Permanente de los Derechos Humanos, Bolivia, seeking United Nations intercession on behalf of the following Bolivian citizens who have allegedly been arrested for political reasons either in Bolivia and subsequently handed over to the Argentinian authorities, or arrested in Argentina where they are still detained or have disappeared:

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Jaime Rafael Lara Torres (arrested at Jujuy on 28.5.1976 - according to information received from the Ministry of External Affairs of Argentina, he was released on 10 May 1976 - disappeared); Cosme Benito Choque and his wife, Irene Peña (arrested on 16.9.1976 in Buenos Aires); Graciela Rutilo Artes and her daughter, Carla Graciela Rutilo (arrested in Oruro, Bolivia on 2.4.1976 and handed over to Argentine Security on 29.8.1976 - both disappeared); Luis Stamponi (arrested in Llallagua, Bolivia on 26.9.1976 and handed over to Argentine Security on 13.10.1976 at Villazón, probably murdered); Gustavo Medina Ortiz (arrested in Salta, Argentina on 10.10.1975, disappeared); Sergio Coro Biutrago (arrested in La Plata on 11.9.1976, together with Hernán Kramer, both disappeared); Nils Alfredo Casson Coria (arrested in Salta in August 1976 - disappeared); Oscar Hugo Gonzalez de la Vega (arrested in Bolivia on 20.6.1976 and handed over to Argentine Security at Villazón on 13.10.1976 - disappeared); Franz Carlos Ortunõ Arenas (arrested in Argentina in March 1974 - presently detained at Rawson); Rosa Mery Riveros Telleria (arrested in Argentina in December 1975 - presently held at Villa Devoto); Alberto Angel Correa Toperberg (Argentine citizen, married to a Bolivian, arrested in Buenos Aires on 16.4.1975 - presently held at Penal de Rawson); Guido Gutierrez Guzman (arrested in Tucumán - presently detained at the Island of Dansut, Patagonia); Juan Carlos Jordan (arrested in Buenos Aires in January 1978 - disappeared).

(ii) Communication No. 79/12/11,735

(dated September 1979) from the Comisión Argentina de Derechos Humanos, France, enclosing a testimony by Nilda Haydée Orazi, former sociologist in Argentina, who gives a detailed account of her arrest and detention in Argentina from 29 April 1977 to 20 December 1978 including a description of the conditions at two

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detention places in that country. The alleged victim states that she was kidnapped in Buenos Aires on 29 April 1977 by members of the Federal police, that she was interrogated and subjected to torture during approximately four weeks at the "Superintendencia de Seguridad Federal" (describing the most current forms of torture applied to her and to other prisoners and mentioning the names of five alleged torturers); that she was then transferred to the "Escuela Mecánica de la Armada (ESMA)" where she remained during most of her detention (again describing in detail the bad prison conditions there, such as overcrowded cells and insufficient food and also listing the names of 17 alleged torturers); the writer further alleges that from December 1975 to December 1978 approximately 4,500 kidnapped or otherwise arrested persons passed through ESMA; that in many cases prisoners designated to be "transferred" to another prison were purportedly drugged and then drowned in the sea (a list with the names of 74 detainees containing the dates of their "transfers" is enclosed). Nilda Haydée Crazzi also alleges in her testimony that her family has been subjected to harassment and persecution, particularly that her father died as a result of having been beaten during several days of detention; and seeking United Nations intercession in this connexion.

(iii) Communication No. 80/6/16,364

(dated 15 January 1980) signed by 24 heads of various committees and associations in Argentina, denouncing violations of human rights in Argentina, mainly violations perpetrated against young persons, alleging that 75 per cent of the disappeared persons or political detainees are less than 30 years old, that they are denied the right to freedom of opinion, mentioning thereby in particular the case of Escribano Declindo F. Bittel, Vice-President of the Partido Justicialista, who has been brought to trial because he had expressed his political views during the visit of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in that country, and seeking United Nations intercession in this connexion.

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(iv) Communication No. 80/6/16,369  
(dated January 1980) from Antonio Hermida Sanchez,  
Spain, giving a detailed account of his arrest on  
21 November 1973 and continued detention till 30 September 1979  
in Argentina, including a detailed description of several  
detention places in that country. The writer, a Spanish national,  
alleges that he was arrested in Cordoba, Argentina,  
on 21 November 1973 by members of the police on false charges  
of possession of arms, that during the first days of his detention  
at the police station he was subjected to torture (mentioning  
the name of one of the alleged torturers); further purporting  
that he was then transferred to the Penitenciaría de Cordoba  
where he remained until 30 September 1976, that later he was  
held at Sierra Chica prison until 3 April 1979 and at Rawson  
prison until 3 August 1979 (describing in detail the various  
forms of ill-treatment to which he and other prisoners in  
those three detention places were subjected including daily  
beatings, insufficient food and lack of medical care, and giving  
the names of 57 detainees and of 17 prison officials). The  
writer further alleges that a policy of repression is  
systematically directed against political prisoners in Argentina  
with the purpose of destroying them physically and psychologically  
that many detainees have been shot by prison officials or have  
died as a result of the torture inflicted upon them (mentioning  
the names of 25 prisoners allegedly killed in 1976 while detained  
at Cordoba). The writer also alleges that political detainees  
are often taken hostage and threatened to be killed in  
retaliation of eventual terrorist actions to be directed against  
the armed forces in the country; purporting in this context  
that during a visit of President Videla in Cordoba and during  
the football championship 15 persons whose names are given were  
detained as hostages, that at Sierra Chica a special section  
called "Batallon de la muerte" was created in June 1977 to  
continuously keep a certain number of hostages and seeking  
United Nations intervention in this connexion.

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No replies to these communications had been received from the Government of Argentina.

The decision with regard to communication No. 80/6/16,364 was taken by 6 in favour, 4 against, with 7 abstentions. The decision on the remaining communications was taken by 11 in favour, 2 against, with 3 abstentions. In taking these decisions the Sub-Commission bore in mind particularly operative paragraph 10 of its own confidential resolution adopted at its thirty-second session and the confidential decision the Commission adopted at its thirty-sixth session with regard to Argentina.

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The next three (3) pages have been eliminated because they are entirely non-responsive.